



17



ABSOLUTE POWER TIE-IN

SUPERMAN

DOWN THE DARK PATH



WILLIAMSON
CAMPBELL

13+
TEEN

**CELEBRATE 30 YEARS OF THE ICONIC DC EVENT
WITH A CAN'T-MISS '90s-FUELED OVERSIZE ISSUE!**



**80
PAGES!**



**ZERO
HOUR**
**30TH ANNIVERSARY
SPECIAL**

AUGUST

**WRITTEN BY
DAN JURGENS
RON MARZ**

**ART BY
DAN JURGENS • DARRYL BANKS • KELLEY JONES • TOM GRUMMETT
JERRY ORDWAY • PAUL PELLETIER • HOWARD PORTER • AND MORE**

THEN.



JUSTICE
LEAGUE DARK'S
HEADQUARTERS?

I'M SURPRISED
WALLER HASN'T
FOUND IT YET, RIGHT
UNDER THE HALL OF
JUSTICE...

SHE
PROBABLY HAS,
SUPERMAN.

THE MAGIC FORCES
AT WORK DOWN HERE
WERE DESIGNED SO THAT
ANYONE THAT ISN'T A MAGIC
USER OR HAS A GUIDE COULD
GET LOST AND SPEND AN
ETERNITY WALKING
THESE HALLS...

WE'RE LUCKY
WONDER WOMAN
STILL HAD HER
SHORTCUT FROM
THEMYSCIRA...

AMANDA WALLER HAS WON.
A PLANETWIDE BLITZKRIEG HAS ROBBED THE WORLD'S
METAHUMANS OF THEIR SUPERPOWERS AND RESOURCES. THOSE
FEW WHO HAVE THUS FAR EVADED CAPTURE ARE FUGITIVES ON
THE RUN, HUNTED MERCILESSLY BY TASK FORCE VII, A REGIMENT
OF UNSTOPPABLE AMAZONS BUILT BY WALLER'S ALLIES, FAILSAFE
AND THE BRAINIAC QUEEN. SUPERMAN AND ZATANNA NOW
VENTURE TO THE DARK ROADS TO FIND A PATH TO THE
MULTIVERSE, AND REINFORCEMENTS...

ABSOLUTE POWER

"MAGIC MISERY TOUR"

JOSHUA WILLIAMSON SCRIPT
JAMAL CAMPBELL ART AND COVER
ARIANA MAHER LETTERS

TONY S. DANIEL & VARIANT COVER ARTISTS

TOMEU MOREY,
STJEPAN ŠEJIĆ,
CHUMA HILL,
GUILLEM MARCH
JASON GEYER &
ALEX SAVIUK

SUPER POWERS ACTION
FIGURE VARIANT COVER
ARTISTS

ELIZABETH TORQUE

SWIMSUIT VARIANT
COVER ARTIST

MIKEL JANÍN

RESISTANCE VARIANT
COVER ARTIST

CHRIS BACHALO

BEETLEJUICE VARIANT
COVER ARTIST

JILLIAN GRANT

ASSISTANT EDITOR

PAUL KAMINSKI

EDITOR

SUPERMAN CREATED BY JERRY SIEGEL AND JOE SHUSTER.
SUPERBOY CREATED BY JERRY SIEGEL.
BY SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT WITH THE JERRY SIEGEL FAMILY.



"...AFTER WHAT
HAPPENED AT THE
FORTRESS OF
SOLITUDE..."*

*THIS STORY TAKES PLACE AFTER
ABSOLUTE POWER #2. CHECK OUT THAT
ISSUE FOR THE FULL TRAGIC STORY! --PK



OKAY, NO ONE CAN
FOLLOW US THROUGH
NOW. WE'RE ON OUR
OWN.

BUT THIS IS OUR
BEST SHOT AT FINDING THE
MAP OF MORDRU, SO WE
CAN WALK THE DARK ROADS
AND GET PRETTY MUCH
ANYWHERE THERE IS
A SHADOW.

INCLUDING THE
MULTIVERSE...

SUPERMAN?



MY SON.
WALLER...



SUPERMAN,
STOP!
SUPERMAN.





I'M...
I'M SORRY,
ZATANNA.

I DON'T LIKE
PEOPLE TO SEE ME
LIKE THIS, BUT I HELD
IT TOGETHER UNTIL
WE LEFT THE
ISLAND.

WALLER
TURNED JON
AGAINST ME...I
HAD TO FIGHT
MY SON.



IT'S OKAY.
YOU DON'T HAVE
TO EXPLAIN
YOURSELF.

WHEN MY
FATHER DIED,
I DIDN'T HANDLE
IT VERY WELL,
EITHER.

IT'S
BECAUSE
WE'RE...

HUMAN.



WE'LL SAVE
JON.

**AND STOP
WALLER.**

NOW
C'MON. WE
BETTER GET
WALKING.



REMEMBER
WHEN I SAID YOU
NEED TO BE A MAGIC
USER TO BE DOWN
HERE?

MY
POWERS ARE
STILL GONE,
TOO, SO...

WE NEED
TO FOCUS TO
MAKE SURE WE
DON'T GET...



LOST?!

METROPOLIS.



WHAT DO YOU MEAN YOU LOST HIM?

WE CAN'T HAVE SOMEONE LIKE **LEX LUTHOR** RUNNING AROUND UNATTENDED.

LUTHOR HAS A CREW WITH HIM. THAT REDHEAD KID FROM THE **DAILY PLANET**, HIS DAUGHTER, AND **SILVER BANSHEE**.

OUR RECORDS SHOW HER POWERS WERE REMOVED, BUT SHE ESCAPED...



SOMEONE CAME IN BLASTING AND TOOK US ALL OUT.

IT HAPPENED **FAST**.



THEY HAD ARMOR ON, WALL.

WE DIDN'T SEE WHO IT WAS...

PROBABLY SOMEONE HUMAN.

...BUT IT WASN'T LEX?

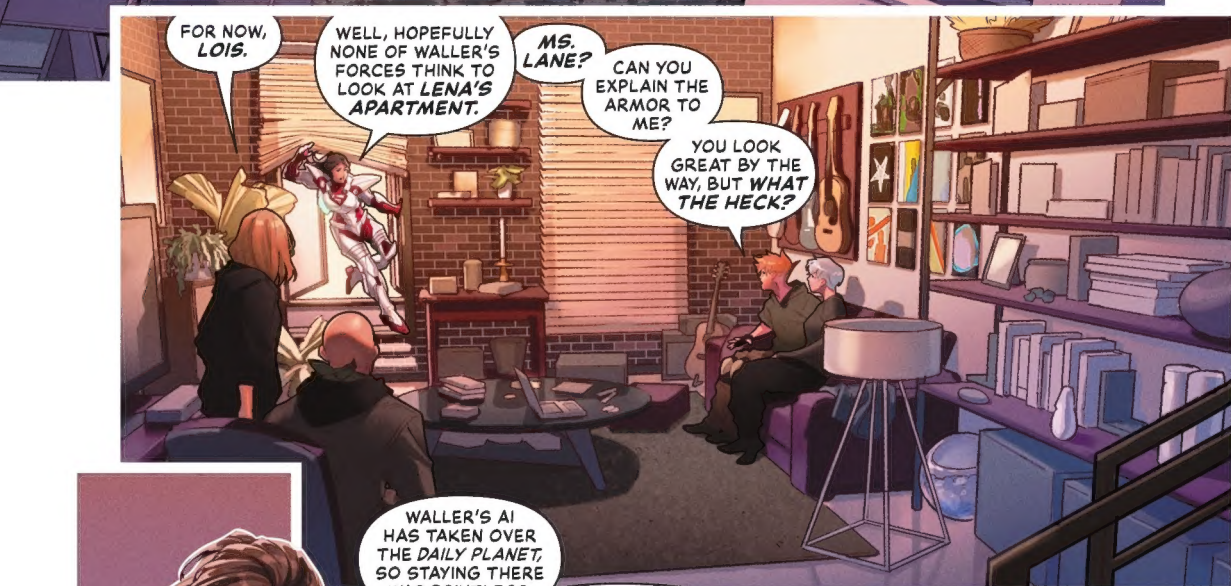
INTERESTING... WHY WOULDN'T LEX DO IT HIMSELF?



AND WHO WOULD BE STUPID ENOUGH TO NOT ONLY DEFEND LEX LUTHOR, BUT TO PUT ON HIS ARMOR AGAINST ME?



COAST IS CLEAR.
WE'RE SAFE...



FOR NOW, LOIS.

WELL, HOPEFULLY NONE OF WALLER'S FORCES THINK TO LOOK AT LENA'S APARTMENT.

MS. LANE?

CAN YOU EXPLAIN THE ARMOR TO ME?

YOU LOOK GREAT BY THE WAY, BUT WHAT THE HECK?



WALLER'S AI HAS TAKEN OVER THE DAILY PLANET, SO STAYING THERE WAS POINTLESS.

AND MY PLACE WAS BEING WATCHED. SO, I WENT TO **SUPERCORP** IN HOPES OF GETTING IN TOUCH WITH SUPERMAN OR ANYONE ELSE.

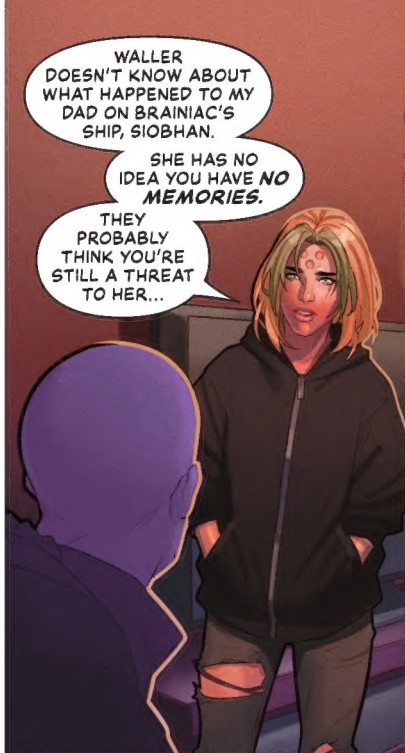
THERE WERE NEWS REPORTS THAT SUPERMAN WAS SHOT, BUT EVER SINCE WALLER'S AI TOOK OVER THE NEWS, I HAVE NO IDEA WHAT IS **REAL** OR HER **PROPAGANDA**.

I SAW YOU WERE UNDER ATTACK AND PUT THIS ARMOR ON.

AND YOU TOTALLY KICKED ASS, LOIS. THAT WAS **INSANE**.

BUT WHY WAS PEACEMAKER AFTER LEX?







I GOT HIM
TO A SECURE
LOCATION.

BUT LOIS,
YOU NEED TO
TAKE THAT SUPER-
CORP ARMOR OFF.
I WAS ABLE TO
TRACK IT.

WHICH
MEANS WALLER'S
PEOPLE CAN,
TOO.



MR...
LUTHOR?



UH, DO
WE KNOW EACH
OTHER?



EXCUSE
ME?

YOU TWO
NEVER GOT TO
TALK AFTER WE
GOT BACK FROM
BRAINIAC'S
SHIP.

MY FATHER
LOST HIS
MEMORY.

WE CAN
CATCH YOU UP
LATER, *MERCY*.
FIRST...



...WHERE *IS*
SUPERMAN? I SAW
A REPORT THAT HE
WAS SHOT, BUT THAT
WAS JUST MORE OF
WALLER'S GARBAGE,
RIGHT?

OH NO,
LOIS...YOU DON'T
KNOW?



"SUPERMAN DOESN'T
HAVE HIS POWERS AND IS
ON A DARK PATH TO GET
THEM BACK..."

ZATANNA,
EVER SINCE I GOT
SHOT, I'VE HAD THESE...
VISIONS...*IMAGES*...OF
MY OWN PAST WITH
MAGIC.

IT'S
THE *DARK ROADS*.
THEY MUST KNOW YOU
WERE LOOKING FOR THEM,
AND ARE REACHING
OUT.

WE'RE
NOT THERE
NOW?

OH NO.
THIS IS JUST THE
PATH *SWAMP THING*
USED TO USE FOR THE
PARLIAMENT
OF TREES.

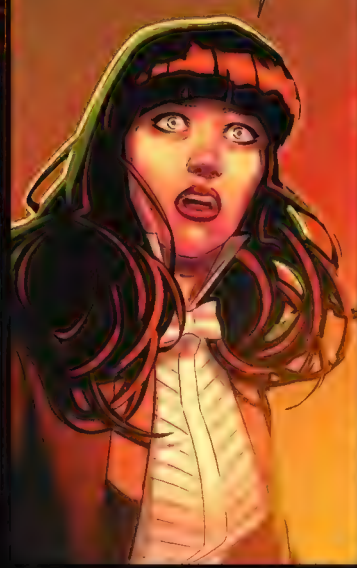
I HID
SOMETHING
THERE.

IT CAN
HELP US GET
WHERE WE NEED TO GO,
BUT IT'S REALLY
DANGEROUS.

HOPEFULLY
SWAMP THING
CAN HELP
US...



OH
NO, SWAMP
THING...?
WHERE
ARE YOU?



WALLER'S
TASK FORCE
AGENTS!

WHAT
ARE YOU
DOING?!





WE HAVE
TO STOP
THEM!



AND WE
WILL!



AFTER WE
STOP WALLER AND
I GET MY MAGIC
BACK!

BUT
RIGHT NOW, THIS
FIGHT IS POINT-
LESS.

THERE'S
TOO MANY AND
WE'RE RUNNING
OUT OF TIME!



THEN
WHAT DO WE
DO?!

WE
HOPE THE
FIRE HASN'T
GOTTEN TO
IT YET!



THERE
IT IS!

IT'S ON
FIRE!

I KNOW!



AAAAHH!





TRY NOT
TO STAND OUT,
SUPERMAN.

TOO
LATE.



WE ARE
CLEARLY NOT
WANTED
HERE.



I DON'T
CARE.



SOMEONE
HERE MUST
KNOW WHERE
THE MAP OF
MORDRU IS.



ZATANNA
ZATARA?



OH MY GOD, IT IS YOU.
M-MY NAME IS ADAM. ADAM AESFORD. I'M A **BIG** FAN.



HI...
NORMALLY I'M A **STAGE MAGICIAN**. LIKE YOU. WELL, A SWORD DANCER, ASPIRING. BUT GIGS ARE HARD TO COME BY AT THE MOMENT, SO I TOOK A JOB HERE. IT PAYS OKAY.
UM...



...Y-YOU **NEED** TO GET OUT OF HERE.
WE WERE ALREADY ATTACKED **ONCE**, AND THE BAR WAS ABLE TO REPAIR ITSELF, BUT...
THE PEOPLE HERE ARE HOPING TO AVOID G-GETTING INVOLVED IN WHAT IS GOING ON OUTSIDE, AND Y'KNOW...
TH-THEY SAY YOU'RE **NOT** A MAGIC USER RIGHT NOW, SO...

*IN ABSOLUTE POWER:
TASK FORCE VII #3.
--PAYIN' ATTENTION PK



MY MEMBERSHIP MIGHT BE EXPIRED, BUT I THINK I'VE EARNED A LITTLE...

COWARDS.



EVERY
SINGLE ONE
OF YOU.

COWARDS.

I DON'T
PRETEND TO
KNOW THE WAYS OF
MAGIC OR YOUR
WORLD.

BUT
THERE IS A
WAR OUT
THERE.



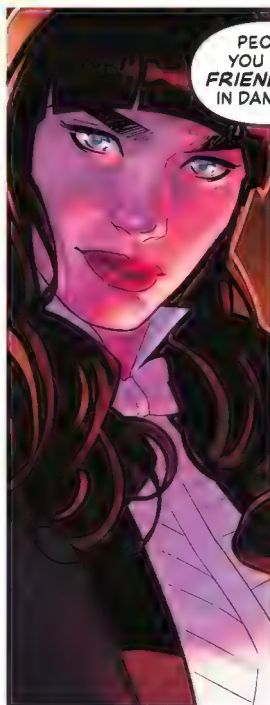
AND YOU
STILL HAVE
YOUR MAGIC
ABILITIES.

YOU
COULD BE
OUT THERE
HELPING
US.



INSTEAD
YOU STAY
HERE AND
DRINK.

WHILE
PEOPLE'S
LIVES ARE
AT RISK.

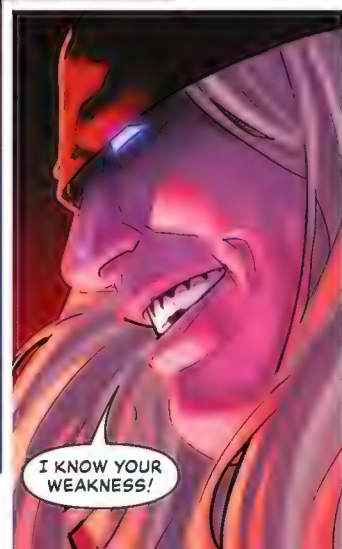


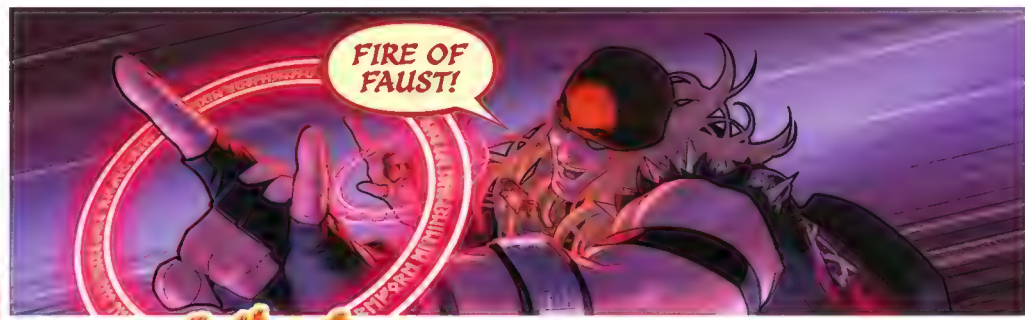
PEOPLE
YOU CALL
FRIENDS ARE
IN DANGER...

...AND YOU
HIDE.

YOU'RE
HERE, TOO.
AIN'T YA?



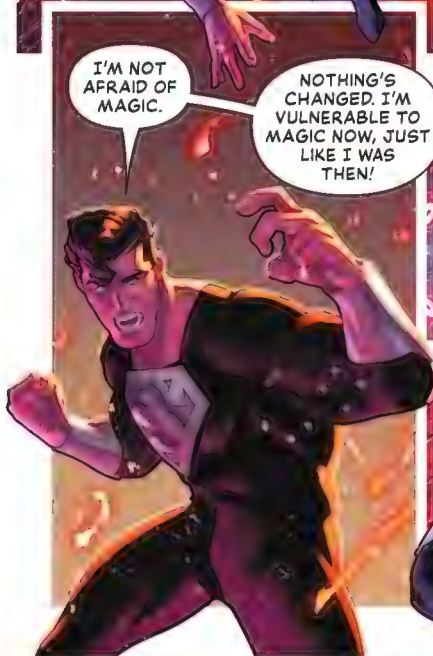




FIRE OF
FAUST!



YOU DON'T
HAVE YOUR POWERS
AND YOU'RE WEAK
TO MAGIC!



I'M NOT
AFRAID OF
MAGIC.

NOTHING'S
CHANGED. I'M
VULNERABLE TO
MAGIC NOW, JUST
LIKE I WAS
THEN!



CHAINS
OF--



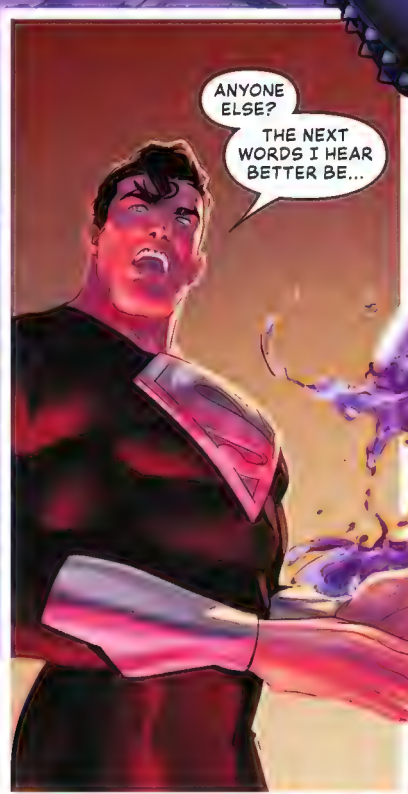
KRAK

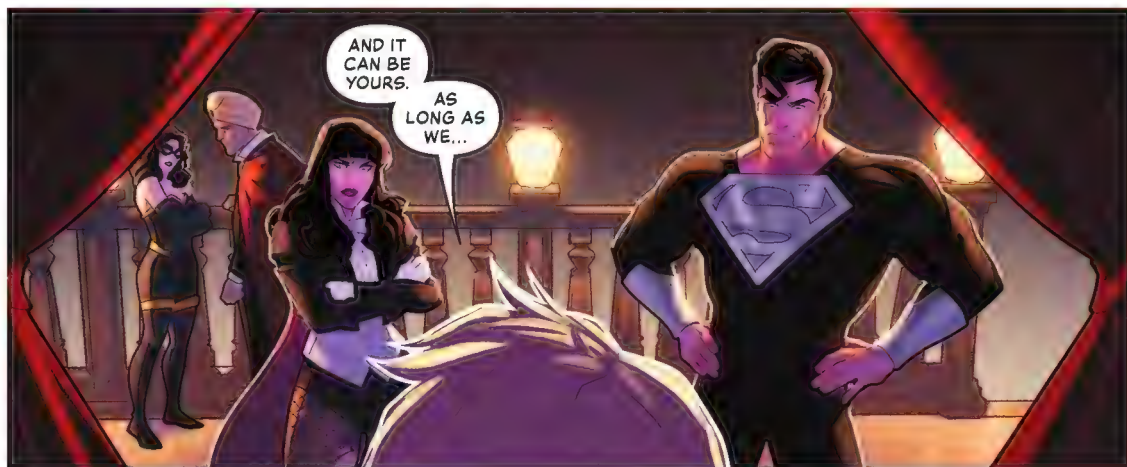


COUGH...
CHAINS...OF...
COUGH...



GRAB







...CAN
MAKE A
DEAL.

TO BE CONTINUED NEXT ISSUE AND IN THE
PAGES OF ABSOLUTE POWER ALL SUMMER LONG!
WHAT COULD SUPERMAN AND ZATANNA POSSIBLY
TRADE TO **NERON** TO GET THE MAP? OH YEAH...



REMEMBERING AN ICON

TRINA ROBBINS

1938-2024

Trina Robbins

WELL, I'VE BEEN IN THIS BUSINESS A FEW YEARS.

IT WOULD BE GROSSLY NAIVE AND PRESUMPTUOUS TO THINK THAT A COMIC BOOK CAN CHANGE THE WORLD'S THINKING.

--BUT IT DOESN'T HURT TO TRY.

FROM A STORY
WRITTEN BY GEORGE PÉREZ,
DRAWN BY RAMONA FRADON,
COLORED BY SHELLEY EIBER,
AND LETTERED BY CARRIE SPIEGLE

IN HONOR OF
TRINA ROBBINS.

WHO HAS JOINED THE TRINITY OF EVIL?

ABSOLUTE POWER #2

THINGS GO FROM BAD TO WORSE FOR DC'S
HEROES, COURTESY OF THE SUPERSTAR TEAM OF
MARK WAID and DAN MORA!

AUGUST



TASK FORCE VII
DOMINATES THE DC UNIVERSE!



AUGUST:
ABSOLUTE POWER #2

ABSOLUTE POWER:
TASK FORCE VII #4

ABSOLUTE POWER:
TASK FORCE VII #5

ABSOLUTE POWER:
ORIGINS #2



TIE-INS:
BATMAN #151

GREEN LANTERN #14

SUPERMAN #17

WONDER WOMAN #12

GREEN ARROW #15



THE BLOCKBUSTER EVENT CONTINUES IN SEPTEMBER!

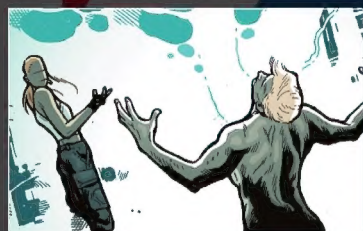
JENNY SPARKS



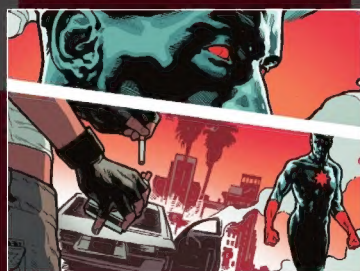
When Captain Atom goes rogue, threatening to destroy the planet he once swore to protect, it'll take one of DC's most unconventional heroes to stop him.

Jenny Sparks, the Spirit of the 20th Century, entered this Earth at the stroke of midnight on January 1, 1900, and hasn't stopped her crusade for justice since. In our world, Jenny Sparks debuted in *Stormwatch* #37, and soon became a fan-favorite character in the revolutionary series *The Authority*.

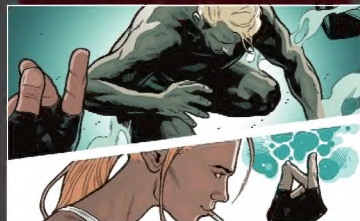
With a snap of her fingers, she can dig into the lives of the most powerful people on the planet and fight back against their corruption. This August, Jenny Sparks is resurrected in the 21st century for a brand-new adventure in a seven-issue DC Black Label series from Eisner Award-winning writer Tom King and rising star artist Jeff Spokes.



King described *Jenny Sparks* as the character's mission to "save five men and women taken hostage by an out-of-control and infinitely powered Captain Atom. Through this lens, we'll explore the grip of Jenny's time on our own; how, despite all our desperate prayers, the sins of our past refuse to die away."



"*Jenny Sparks* is an epic, thrilling, mind-blowing series in the tradition of *Strange Adventures*, *Mister Miracle*, and *The Human Target*," King said. "*Jenny Sparks* seeks to set the bar in superhero comics, to show how our heroes can illuminate and define our moment."



Art featured by Jeff Spokes

DON'T MISS JENNY SPARKS #1, ON SALE THIS AUGUST

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The Last Kryptonian-DCP

